

## **Coastal Impact Assistance**

*Whereas*, the OCS Policy Committee, in approving its 1993 report entitled *Moving Beyond Conflict to Consensus*, recommended that a portion of the revenues derived from OCS program activities should be shared with coastal States, Great Lakes States, and U.S. Territories, and further recommended alternative proposals to provide impact assistance;

*Whereas*, the OCS Policy Committee at its May 1997 meeting reiterated its support for impact assistance and revenue sharing, recommending that the Secretary of the Interior initiate a legislative proposal in the 105th Congress to implement impact assistance and revenue sharing measures, using as a starting point the previous recommendations of this Committee contained in its 1993 report, *Moving Beyond Conflict to Consensus*;

*Whereas* at the May 1997 meeting, the Minerals Management Service requested the Committee look at the mechanics of how a coastal impact assistance program would work and make recommendations about how to implement such a program;

*Whereas* the report of the Coastal Impact Assistance Working Group recommends that an OCS impact assistance and ocean/coastal resource protection program be added to, and a concomitant increase in OCS revenues be transferred to a revived and enhanced Land and Water Conservation Fund;

*Whereas* the report of the Coastal Impact Assistance Working Group proposes the mechanism for implementing such a program;

*Now therefore be it resolved*, that the Report of the OCS Policy Committee Coastal Impact Assistance Working Group be approved and adopted by the Policy Committee; and

*Further, be it resolved*, that the Working Group report be sent to the Secretary of the Interior with this resolution; and

*Further, be it resolved*, that the Secretary of the Interior is urged by the Policy Committee to take timely action to prepare and support draft legislation to implement the recommendations of this report.

Unanimously approved by the OCS Policy Committee: October 29, 1997